

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented system, ~~consisting of one or more computers connected by one of an internet and a local area network for generating an electronic clinical record of a patient clinical encounter for submission for review by a health care reviewing organization, comprising:~~

at least one user selection interface module, wherein the at least one user interface module facilitates generation of an electronic record of a patient clinical encounter by presenting a user interface comprising a plurality of fields to a user and receiving data from the user via at least a first subset of the plurality of fields, wherein the plurality of fields are arranged as on a clinical chart, wherein at least a second subset of the plurality of fields comprises a list of values, wherein the electronic record is to be reviewed by a health care reviewing organization, and wherein the selection user interface module adapted to facilitates the selection of at least a diagnosis;

at least one navigation module, wherein the at least one navigation module modifies the fields presented by the at least one user interface module in response to data entered into the user interface module; and

a verification module for determining an authorization level for the diagnosis by referring to at least data in identified fields, the verification module determining said authorization level prior to submission of the clinical record to a server computer.
2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said user selection interface module further facilitates selection of one or more criteria corresponding to the a-selected diagnosis, and wherein the one or more criteria are selected by the navigation module from a set of criteria stored in a criteria database.
3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 2 ~~4~~, wherein said authorization level is determined at least in part by depends on a plurality of associated the selected criteria.
4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, ~~further comprising a data entry interface,~~ wherein the ~~data entry~~ user interface module presents the plurality of fields in is a single

screen, ~~and interface~~ whereby ~~a~~ the user does need not scroll the screen when entering data in ~~at least the identified plurality of~~ fields.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said verification module is coupled to a rule database which stores rules on the server computer and is employed by the verification module in determining said authorization level.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 5, wherein the rule database stores at least two levels of rules, said levels comprising:

a criteria level, the criteria level rules determining a criteria status by referring to data from the identified fields of said clinical record; and

a diagnosis level, the diagnosis level rules determining a diagnosis authorization level by referring to the criteria status of associated criteria.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of in-claim 1, ~~when two or more computers are used,~~ wherein the user interface module is implemented on a client computer, further comprising:

~~—a user interface module on a client computer for generating screens to enable the submission of data to be submitted to the server computer;~~

~~—a user interface to facilitate the submission of clinical data to the server system, the user interface coupled with a forms database on the server computer that is used in generating user screens on the client system by which data is entered;~~

a first server computer database, housed on the server computer, wherein the first computer database is associated with the a user interface module, for storing wherein the first computer database stores forms and controls employed in the generation of the user interface, and wherein the user interface module causes the forms and controls to be presented in a format similar to a clinical chart ~~screens;~~

~~—a navigation module operatively coupled to the user interface module, the navigation module operable for user interaction with the user screens by automatically modifying fields of a respective user screen in response to a user's entering of data therein;~~

a second server computer database, housed on the server computer, wherein the second computer database is associated with the navigation module, and wherein the second computer database stores hierarchical for storing information representing as to data selections available to a user; and,

~~—a verification module operatively coupled to the user interface module, the verification module adapted to determine a level of authorization and criteria compliance based on the entered data, said determination performed prior to submission of the clinical record to the server; and~~

a third server computer database, housed on the server computer, wherein the third computer database is associated with the verification module, wherein the third computer database stores for storing criteria rules, and wherein the criteria rules which are evaluated on the client computer to determine in real-time whether each data entry meets one or more criteria for determining for an authorization level.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the submission of a clinical record for automated processing, comprising:

providing at least one selection interface, wherein the selection interface adapted to facilitates the user selection by a user of one of a plurality of predetermined clinical data values, the predetermined clinical values comprising at least a record of the symptoms associated with a patient and a diagnosis;

receiving a selection from said selection interface; and

providing at least one data field in response to said selection, wherein the data field is a quantified data field associated with an objective criteria, and whereby said quantified data field is adapted to be examined so as to facilitates the automated processing of said clinical record.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for entering medical diagnosis-based ~~criteria~~ data, comprising:

entering a diagnosis into a database residing on a server computer;

entering a criteria into the database residing on the server computer, the criteria ~~corresponding to~~ associated with a rule required for ~~authorizing a~~ confirming the entered diagnosis, the criteria associated with at least one finding;

entering into the database residing on the server computer data corresponding to at least a subset of the at least one finding associated with the entered findings that meet criteria ~~into the database residing on the server computer~~; and

generating an electronic clinical record based on the entered data. ~~said finding.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising a step of entering additional data corresponding to the at least one entered finding.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, further comprising a step of entering a request for additional information by employing an additional request selection interface.

12. (Currently Amended) An interface for entering data for evaluation of a clinical encounter, comprising:

an interactive set of lists, wherein each of the lists in the interactive set of lists ~~each display in its own pop-up button list, and each list has its own domain;~~ wherein each of the lists in the interactive set of lists is displayed as a separate pop-up button list, and wherein the interactive set of lists is formatted to be similar to a clinical chart.

13. (Currently Amended) The interface of claim 12 further comprising a display area, wherein the a display area displays a parameter and at least one corresponding finding ~~findings~~ by displaying each parameter proximate to and the associated at least one finding ~~on a single line.~~

14. (Currently Amended) The interface of claim 12 further comprising a data entry area, wherein the a data entry area is adapted to facilitate entry of more than one finding for a parameter.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for processing patient clinical data by a health care organization, comprising:

establishing a server computer, wherein a plurality of forms facilitating the entry of patient clinical data in clinical chart form are stored on the server computer;

establishing a user site;

interconnecting the server computer and the user site;

retrieving from the server computer at least one of the plurality of forms for display and editing at the user site;

~~—, connected by an internet to a server computer providing forms at the user site that facilitate the entry of patient clinical data in clinical chart format;~~

configuring ~~inputs from~~ at least a first subset of the forms to apply a first set of rules to at least a first subset of inputs entered into the first subset of forms, wherein the first set of rules for authorizing authorizes at least one diagnosis based on associated clinical patient encounter criteria;

configuring ~~inputs from~~ at least a second subset of the forms to apply a second of set of rules to at least a second subset of inputs entered into the second subset of forms, wherein the second set of rules evaluates for clinical patient encounter data;

receiving patient clinical encounter data from ~~medical care providers~~ at least one user interacting with the user site; and

processing the received patient clinical encounter data automatically in accordance with the first and second set of rules.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising providing an indication to a user of the user site regarding an authorization level for the entered data, wherein the indication is provided before the user submits the form to the user site.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for facilitating the single screen submission of patient clinical data in a computer implemented patient care review system, comprising:

providing ~~an~~ a clinical element selection interface, the clinical element selection interface facilitating the selection of ~~an~~ a clinical element, wherein the selectable clinical elements comprise at least one of history and exam;

providing a system/group selection interface, the system/group selection interface facilitating the selection of a ~~system-group~~ system/group associated with ~~of~~ the selected clinical element; and

providing a parameter selection interface, the parameter selection interface facilitating the selection of a parameter associated with ~~of~~ the selected system/group;
wherein the element selection interface, the system/group selection interface, and the parameter selection interface are displayed within a single screen.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for providing an indication of appropriateness of a patient clinical encounter to a user of ~~in~~ an electronic clinical charting system that facilitates the submission of diagnosis-relevant clinical data associated with the patient clinical encounter, comprising:

providing a criteria selection interface, wherein the criteria selection interface allows the user to select a diagnosis-based criteria;

receiving diagnosis related data from the user;

applying a verification rule to the received data; and

providing ~~an indication of~~ a verification result indication, the indication provided within each selected criterion in the criteria selection interface, and wherein the indication conveys ~~to indicate~~ each criterion authorization level.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein ~~review and download of patient clinical encounter encounters are done~~ information is presented on a user computer with relevant clinical data in clinical format that is familiar to clinicians and healthcare reviewers.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein criteria guided two-step clinical entry is done by users who are at least one of clinicians or clinician aids at the site of the patient encounter.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 wherein two-step clinical entry of relevant clinical data ~~and is made in a uniform~~, screen display requiring no scrolling, and wherein the screen display which expedites the transformation of physical patient charts into electronic format for review by health care review organizations.

23. (Currently Amended) The interface of claim 12, wherein at least four pop-up button lists are displayed and include at least one of an Element pop-up button list, a System/Group pop-up button list, a Parameter pop-up button list, and a Finding pop-up button list.

24. (Previously Presented) The interface of claim 23, wherein a selection in one pop-up list populates ~~a list in~~ the next pop-up button list.
25. (Currently Amended) The interface of claim ~~23~~ 24, wherein
a selection in an Element pop-up button list populates a System/Group pop-up button list,
a selection in the System/Group pop-up button list populates a Parameter pop-up button list,
and
a selection in a Finding pop-up button list either:
a) enters the selected Finding with the selected Parameter into a chart note data field in the clinically formatted on-screen display; or
b) ~~directs prompts~~ a user to enter a numeric value, which when entered, enters the selected to be associated with the Finding, and wherein the Finding and with its associated value, along with the selected Parameter, are entered into a chart note data field in the clinically formatted on screen display.
26. (Currently Amended) The interface of claim 25, wherein a selection in a criteria ~~pop-up pop-up~~ button list ~~sets~~ populates the Element pop-up button list, System/Group pop-up button list, Parameter pop-up button list and Finding pop-up button list to enable the user to select the Finding.
27. (Previously Presented) The interface of claim 26, wherein only two steps are necessary to enter diagnosis-relevant clinical date:
a) a selection in the criteria pop-up list which either prompts selection of a finding from the Finding List, or
b) for a numerical finding, selects the finding and prompts for the numerical value.
28. (Previously Presented) The interface of claim 27, where similarly a selection in the additional info pop up list sets the Element list, System/Group list, Parameter list and Finding list to enable the user to select the Finding.
29. (Currently Amended) An electronic clinical record review system comprising:
a user interface, wherein the user interface ~~that~~ prompts for clinically relevant inputs which are used to generate an electronic record of a patient clinical encounter;

a communications interface, whereby the electronic clinical record is transmitted to a health care reviewing organization for review; and ~~in real time for review by a health care reviewing organization and~~

a clinical data evaluation module, wherein the clinical data evaluation module that
automatically evaluates clinical data stored in the electronic clinical record for individual criteria and for the patient clinical encounter, the clinical data comprising patient symptoms.